CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 - 17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) A mine-detonation-resistant understructure for a vehicle body, the understructure comprising:

a generally horizontal floor;

a downwardly concave one-piece armoring plate mounted on the body underneath the floor without a direct connection to the floor, concave toward and facing the ground, and spaced below the floor by a distance sufficient to avoid contact with the floor upon buckling of the plate caused by a mine blase underneath the plate, the bottom plate being formed with at least one longitudinally extending bending edge, the armoring plate being wholly formed by a plurality of substantially planar sections or panels interconnected at corners; and

a deformation free space formed between the plate and the floor of a height sufficient to permit inward buckling of the plate under a mine detonation without contact of the plate with the floor and substantially free of any force-transmitting structure engaging the floor and plate.

19. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 1 wherein the floor is

formed at least in part of a material having fragment-trapping properties.

20. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 19 wherein the floor is provided with a fragment trapping carpet of a flexible high strength material to prevent incursion fragments into an interior of the body.

21. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 20 wherein the carpet is composed of a plurality of layers of an aramide fabric.

22. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 20 wherein the carpet is secured to the floor only at edge regions thereof.

23. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 19 wherein the floor is provided with a slip-resistant material along an upper surface thereof.

24. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 23 wherein the slip-resistant material is a rubber layer.

25. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 18 wherein the floor is mounted in the body so as to be easily dismountable.

26. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 25 wherein the floor is attached to side walls of the body by screws.

27. (canceled)

28. (currently amended) ~~The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 27 wherein~~ A mine-detonation-resistant understructure for a vehicle body, the understructure comprising:

a generally horizontal floor;

a downwardly concave one-piece armoring plate mounted on the body underneath the floor without a direct connection to the floor, concave toward and facing the ground, and spaced below the floor by a distance sufficient to avoid contact with the floor upon buckling of the plate caused by a mine blase underneath the plate, the bottom plate being formed with at least one longitudinally extending bending edge;

a deformation free space formed between the plate and the floor of a height sufficient to permit inward buckling of the plate under a mine detonation without contact of the plate with the floor

and substantially free of any force-transmitting structure engaging the floor and plate;

modular armor plate elements mounted along an underside of the plate; and

guide rails [[are]] provided along edges of the plate to receive the modular armoring plate elements.

29. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 28, further comprising connecting strips in the form of rails between individual modular armor plate elements.

30. (previously presented) A mine-detonation-resistant understructure for a vehicle body, the understructure comprising:

a main armoring plate bent inward into the body, mounted on the body in juxtaposition with the ground and formed in a longitudinal direction of the vehicle with at least one bending edge;

a floor spaced above the main plate and mounted on the body without a direct connection with the main plate;

a deformation free space formed between the main plate and the floor of a height sufficient to permit inward buckling of the main plate under a mine detonation without contact of the main plate with the floor;

modular armor plates mounted along an underside of the main plate;

guide rails being provided along edges of the main plate to receive the modular armoring plates;

connecting strips in the form of rails between individual modular armor plates; and

pins engaging into edge regions of the armor plates and into the connecting strips and the guide rails.

31. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 30 wherein the armor plates and the strips and rails have aligned holes to receive the pins.

32. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 31 wherein at least some of the pins are screws threaded into the distal sides of the guide rails and connecting strips.

33. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 31 wherein the pins are composed of high strength material.

34. (previously presented) The mine-detonation resistant understructure defined in claim 31 wherein the pins are

fixed by screw thread devices in holes in the armor plates, the strips or the rails.